(c) the cities where the new used car venture would be started and the expected profit in the next venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) According to Maruti Udyog Ltd. (MUL), the project has been launched as test phase in October, 2001 in Delhi and Bangalore. It will be rolled out in other cities in subsequent phases. The profit projections shall be made after the successful completion of the test phase.

Roll-back in retirement age in PSUs

68. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Public Sector Units (PSUs) are facing stiff resistance to roll-back in retirement age of their employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that PSUs are downsized in spite of opposition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) The Boards of Directors have been empowered to recommend rollback of age of retirement of employees of PSUs. Government is not aware of any stiff resistance being faced by PSUs in this regard.

(c) Enterprise-specific steps for downsizing are taken by the managements of the concerned PSUs and these include implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Projected loss of public enterprises

69. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total projected loss of public enterprises in the year 2001-2002;

(b) the reasons for these huge losses suffered by these public enterprises; and